









Scott Carlson  
715128  
Anderson 2:30 Th  
Oral Interview

## James J. Huerter

James J. Huerter was born to Emil and Valeria Huerter on May 29, 1925. They are descendants from Germany. He has lived in northeast Kansas for 78 years. Valeria was a teacher at Maple Shade Country School. It was a one-room schoolhouse. Emil was a farmer outside of Goff, Kansas. On the farm, they milked cows, raised chickens, and had a large garden. When he was old enough to go to school, James attended Maple Shade Country School. He had to walk a mile each way to get to and from school. He then attended Kelly Grade School where he graduated from the eighth grade. Finally, he attended and graduated from Goff High School in May 1942.

As a young boy, James lived through many hardships. He had to endure living on a farm during the Great Dust Bowl that swept through Kansas in the 1930's. Here are some memories he had of the Dust Storms:

*"I remember one day a dust storm came up from Oklahoma and they sent us home from school because we couldn't see to read. There was so much wind during the Dust Bowl that the farmers had to start building windbreaks. Some days the dust storms were worse than others, but it went*



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*on for a whole year. We didn't get one inch of rain the entire year of 1937."*

The Great Depression was also ripping through the nation during this time. James recalls:

*"I can remember that nobody had any money. We never went hungry though, because we raised our own food and had cows and chickens. We sold eggs for other groceries that we needed. The only time we went to town was on Saturday nights. For fun, Seneca had free movies that we could go to."*

James met Geraldine Enneking in 1946 at a barn dance near Seneca, Kansas. On September 3, 1946, James Huerter and Geraldine Enneking were united in marriage. They were married at Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Seneca, Kansas. They have three boys, four girls, 19 grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren. James and Geraldine have been married for 57 years.

James wasn't the only one from his family to join the military. James' brother Bob was in the Navy Air Corps, his brother Alfred was in the Army Air Corps, and his brother Dan was in the Air Force for 20 years.

During the time James was going to school, in the years leading up to World War II, he never thought he was going to go to a far away land risking his life for his country right after graduation. I asked him what he



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thought about the threat of war coming to the United States while Germany was taking over the European Continent, he replied:

*"I thought the British did a good job against the Germans but I knew they had their hands full. I didn't know much about the Soviets so I didn't know if they were going to help out or not. I thought it was a good idea to help the British out by the Lend-Lease Act and the Destroyer-Bases Deal. I didn't think the United States was going to end up fighting in the war though. I think everyone over here just hoped the British would be able to take care of Germany without our help."*

Although James didn't think he was going to have to fight a war during the Battle of Britain, his mind changed after Pearl Harbor. When Japan attacked the United States on December 7, 1941, James realized what he was going to have to do:

*"I remember that I had been hunting all day, and when I got home my parents told me what was going on. It was quite a shock. I wondered why they wanted to attack us. We never did anything to bother them. After Pearl Harbor, I felt a great sense of patriotism. I felt like I wanted to go sign up to fight right away. I had to wait until I graduated from high school though."*

Many people were feeling this patriotism during this time period. Before Pearl Harbor, very few people in the United States wanted to be



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dragged into another European conflict. When the war came to them, it was a different story. Everybody wanted to do their part to help the United States defeat the evil dictatorships. People didn't only help in the military though. Many people, including women, stayed home and produced the tanks, ships, guns, and everything else the Allies needed to win the war. James parents helped in a different way. They continued to farm their land and help feed the American people and soldiers.

World War II affected James' life plans quite a bit. Before Pearl Harbor, James never considered joining the military. He planned on owning his own land and farming. When he decided that he was going to join the military, he wanted to join the Navy with his cousin. The two were split up when the Navy told James he couldn't join because he was colorblind. James started out in the Army infantry. He finished basic training and signed up for parachute infantry. He started out as a rifleman, and ended up as a 1<sup>st</sup> Scout.

James had to go to Camp Roberts, California for his basic training. I asked him what he thought about his basic training and officers. He said:

*"I learned a lot at basic training. I think that it would be good training for anybody. I learned to take orders because if you didn't, you would be*



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*peeling potatoes and scrubbing the floors. I had good officers. I respected them a great deal. They were just regular ordinary guys."*

Although Germany seemed like a more formidable opponent, James said that he thought the Japanese were more of a threat:

*"I think the Japanese posed more of a threat to the United States than Germany. The Germans didn't attack the United States. Japan did. I had to fight against the Japanese every day while I was in the Pacific, and they were even a bigger threat than I thought."*

After James had his training out of the way, he was off to the Pacific to fight against the Japanese. His company jumped on Corregidor Island at 1200 hours on Feb 16, 1945. The very high wind and rough terrain made jumping hazardous. Many of his fellow soldiers were injured during the jump onto Corregidor. James' crew looked at the Japanese as dirty fighters. This is because of the Banzi attacks that the Japanese used. One example of this was on Feb 19.

*"At 0430 Japs made "Banzi" attack on Company CP. Japs came out of caves along shore and came up through ravines. They took the high ground above the CP and started charging. About half of the men on perimeter were killed by infiltrating Japs. The rest of the perimeter withdrew closer to the Company. We lost 13 men during this attack. The Japanese lost approximately 150 men." (Company D Unit History)*



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James was not at all excited about being part of an invasion on the Japanese mainland. If there was any way that the United States could beat the Japanese without an all out invasion, James wanted it to happen. That is why James was happy that the United States government decided to drop the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki:

*"I was very glad to see the atomic bombs dropped on Japan. If we had to invade Japan, we would have lost thousands of men. The Japanese had been known for fighting to the end. There wasn't any other way to make them surrender, besides the atomic bomb. If we didn't drop the atomic bomb, I may have been killed while we were taking Japan. "*

I agree that the use of the atomic bomb saved many American lives. It may have even saved James' life. I wish there was another way the United States could have ended the war though. With all of the threats we now have from terrorists, I wish nuclear weapons never existed.

James remembers the day that the Allies defeated Germany very well. He was in the Philippines Islands and there were celebrations. They were all happy because they thought they were going to get more help. With the Germans now out of the war, the United States and their Allies could now go after Japan with all of their force. James remembers the day the Japanese surrendered even better:



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*"That was a great day. There were huge celebrations when the Japanese surrendered. We knew that the hell of fighting a war was finally over. The only thing that would have been better is if they allowed us to have beer."*

After the war was over, James Huerter ended up in Japan. He was part of the United States occupation. He went through much of Japan, and he saw where the atomic bomb was dropped. He couldn't believe all of the people it killed and the destruction it caused. He was discharged after he received enough points. Soldiers were given points based on how long they were fighting. They were also given points for being wounded. After a soldier received enough points, they were sent home. James was very happy to finally return home.



I used to think Heroes were easy to recognize by their fancy uniforms and shiny medals. I used to believe they were always the people in newspaper headlines & history books.

But through the years of my life, I've seen Heroes that look a lot like teachers and nurses and neighbors and friends.

There are Heroes who risk their lives for those they may never meet. And there are everyday Heroes all around us who quietly lend a gentle hand

a listening ear,  
a healing touch.

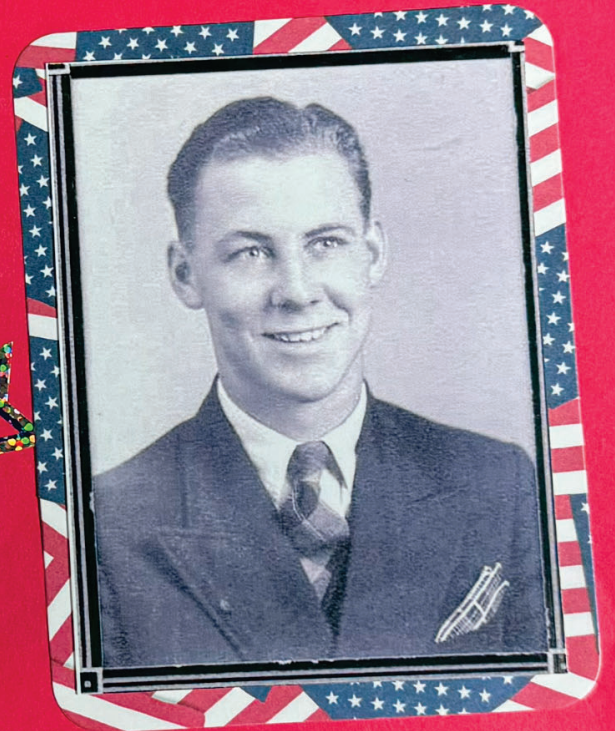
Some Heroes wear handsome uniforms.

Some Heroes are clothed in the aging body of a grandparent or the innocent spirit of a child. I used to think Heroes were easy to recognize. . .

Now, I understand, they're just ordinary people with extraordinary hearts. Hearts that reach out to a stranger in need without expecting to be noticed and without ever realizing the life-changing

difference they have made.

©Kimberly Rinehart







Dear folks,

Well we got sworn in  
& got our uniforms today (Mon)  
tomorrow we will get our shots  
& maybe we will be sent out  
the next day.

We don't know for sure how  
long we will be here so I  
wouldn't write until we know  
for sure. Well there isn't much  
to write about right now so I  
will close for now & write more  
later.

d & c  
Jim



Priv. James J. Huerter

A.S. N 37000000

RRC # 17772 Co. "E"

Bonacks # 615

Ft. Leavenworth

Kansas



Free

Mr. Emil Huerter  
Laff,  
Kansas





Dear folks

I forgot to put the key  
in the letter I wrote last week  
so I will send it now.

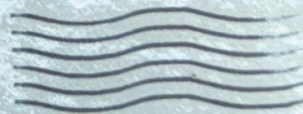
There isn't much time to write  
so I will just send the key &  
write later.

Love  
Jim



OLD GLORY

Fort James  
A.S.N. 27735982  
R.R.C. - 1773 Co E  
Barracks - 612  
Fort Leavenworth



Mr. Carl Hunter  
Hoff  
Kansas





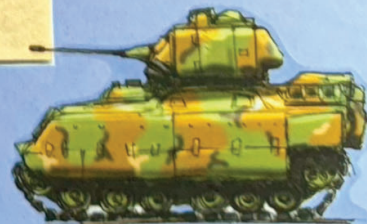
Dear Folks.

Well I am still down here. A bunch of the boys in our barracks got their shipping orders today but I didn't get mine.

I met "Poppy" Ingall from Wetmore. He is a Corporal & he got me an easy job to keep me off of K.P. I and two other fellows go down to Barracks No 611 & sweep it out & scrub the floor & then set around & talk the rest of the time.

We have had good meals since I have been here.

Boy I sent my cloths home in my suit case & I locked it & will send the key home in this letter.







Did Bob get moved or have  
you heard from him lately.  
If I have any letters from Bob I  
don't forward them until I get a  
new address.

When I get an address I want  
about 3 cloths hangers & also send  
me Bob's address. Well it is  
about bed time to turn in so I will  
close for now.

Love  
Jim

Pvt. James J. Quarter  
A.S.N. 27725982  
R.R.C. - 1772 C E  
Barracks - 615  
Fort Leavenworth  
Kansas.



Free

Mr. Emil Quarter  
Staff,  
Kansas





Dear Folks.

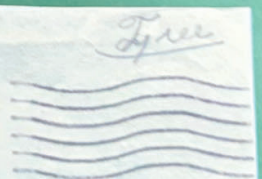
Well I finally got my shipping orders last nite. I don't know when I will be shipped out yet. Probably this afternoon or tonite. They won't tell you where you are going either. There are only 2 out of our barracks to go including myself.

Sunday Morning I went to church. There were 2 other boys in our barracks that went also. They have a very nice Chapel here. It is small but very nice. I went to a show Sat. nite. The name of it was "Rosalie The Riveter" Sunday nite Warren Limon (a spy from Emporia) & I went to the show. See here Private Hargrove. It was a swell show. Well I can't think of anything else to write so will close for now.

Love  
Jim



Pvt. James J. Hunter  
A.S.N. 27735982  
R.R.C. - 1772 Co. E  
Barracks - 615  
Fort Leavenworth  
Kansas



Mr & Mrs Hunter  
Topeka  
Kansas





God bless America, land that I love-stand beside her and guide her through the night with the light from above  
From the mountains, to the prairies, to the ocean white with foam-God bless America, my home sweet home





The Philippines  
March 10, 1944

Dear Folks,

I suppose you have heard about our outfit & wondering how I am. Well I am still about as good as ever. I had a few small <sup>pieces of</sup> shrapnel in my back but didn't bother me though. Did lose a little weight though.

We are now out of danger & are eating good again. We had some ~~real~~ fresh tomatoes for supper tonight. Also steak & gravy. I was really glad to get the tomatoes.

Say could you get me a good Bilfold & send it to me. I lost mine & we can't get any over here. Didn't have but a dollar bill in it. I was hated to lose it because it was the one Bob gave me

for my birthday. I also had some pictures I hated to lose but there isn't anything I can do about it.

The reason we weren't getting our mail there for a long time was because we were on a ship & couldn't get any. We could write though. We were on the ship almost a month.

I got Gracie's picture & also Bob's & Verda's. It is sure a good picture.

We went to a show last night.

The name of it was "The Conqueror". It was pretty good. Sure is good to be back where you can go to a show again. Got Bob's address. Will write to him as soon as I have time. Will try to tell you something about what happens a little later if possible. Must close for now. Love Jim.



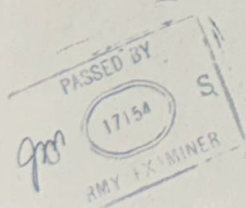
Would like to have a small pocket  
diary & also a pocket dictionary



Pfc. James J. Huertes  
Co. D 503 Para Inf.  
A.P.O. 321, 7. P.M.  
San Francisco, Calif.



Mrs. Emil Huertes  
Yoff,  
Kansas





Dear Folks,

Well here I am in sunny Calif. We are stationed at Camp Roberts. It is about half way between Los Angeles & San Francisco.

It is a very nice camp. There are large hills all around & the grass is nice & green. There isn't many trees around here though. They say that it doesn't get very hot here. I hope that it doesn't.

We will have 17 weeks of basic here & then we will probably be sent to school or another camp somewhere. They classified me as semi skilled in something but I don't know what it is. They ask me a lot of questions about mechanical work at Leavenworth. The Corporal that conveyed us out here said that I would take my basic & then I will probably sent to school somewhere. I sure hope I get to go to school somewhere.



### THE POEM HEARD 'ROUND THE WORLD.

(Written by Miss Frances Angermayer in Kansas City, June 3, 1943.)

#### CONVERSION.

Look, God, I have never spoken to You—  
But now—I want to say "how do You do?"  
You see, God, they told me You didn't exist—  
And like a fool—I believed all of this.  
Last night from a shell hole I saw Your sky—  
I figured right then they had told me a lie.  
Had I taken time to see the things You made,  
I'd known they weren't calling a spade a spade.  
I wonder, God, if You'd shake my hand.  
Somehow—I feel that You will understand.  
Funny—I had to come to this hellish place,  
Before I had the time to see Your Face.  
Well, I guess there isn't much more to say,  
But I'm sure glad, God, I met You today.  
I guess the "zero hour" will soon be here,  
But I'm not afraid since I know You're near.  
The signal!—Well, God—I'll have to go.  
I like You lots—This I want You to know—  
Look, now—this will be a horrible fight—  
Who knows—I may come to Your House tonight—  
Though I wasn't friendly with You before,  
I wonder, God—if You'd wait at Your Door—  
Look—I'm crying! Mel—Shedding tears!—  
I wish I'd known You these many years—  
Well, I will have to go now, God—good-by.  
Strange—since I met You—I'm not afraid to die.



We had a very nice trip out  
here. There were 5 1/2 of us that came  
out.

We came out here the longest way  
they could possibly find. (I think)  
We went to Kansas City then back  
to Topeka through Manhattan, Pratt  
and through the corner of Oklahoma  
then through part of New Mexico,  
through part of Texas then through  
some more of New Mexico, through  
Arizona then California up to Los  
Angeles & then to Camp Roberts.

We left Wend morning about  
4:00 & got out here at 12:38 Sat.

We got to ride on a pullman &  
they had a dining car right on  
the train so it was really nice.

Don't send my watch & medel  
until I get a different address. This  
one will not be permanent. You  
can write though. They said we  
might not get our letters right  
away & I would hate to have my  
watch & medel get lost. I will let  
you know when to send them. Love  
Jim



at game & Hunter  
S.N. 27735482  
Camp Roberts  
California.



Mr. Emil Hunter  
Laff.  
Kansas







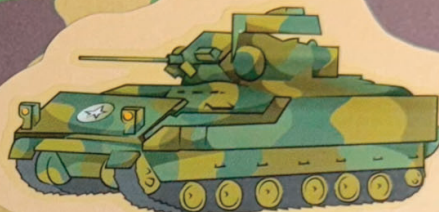
Camp Roberts, Ca  
March 16, 1944

Dear Father

We'll we finally got a permanent  
address. St. Paul James J. Huertes #37724  
Co. B - 91<sup>st</sup> Inf. Trg. Bn.  
Post Harrison, Camp Roberts  
California

I guess that I won't get to go to a  
school when we get through with our  
basic. Our 1-7 weeks will start Mon.  
We have been doing some marching  
drilling. We went on a hike yesterday.  
It was only 2 mi. & we went on again today.  
It was about 2 or 4 mi. It's  
pretty hot today but it will get a  
lot hotter.

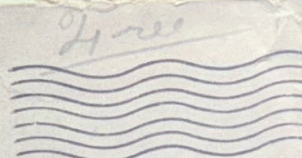
If my watch is fixed you can  
send it & about 4 or 5 cloth hangers,  
mudel & a couple of good towels. If you  
get up to Seneca see if they still have  
some money. felts at Bucklers. they  
did have some good ones there. I think  
I am going to like the army life. It is  
time for the lights to go out so I will  
Love Jim.





P.S. Send me Bob's address if you have  
it. you can also send me the Courier  
Tribune if you want to.

Priv. James J. Hunter #27932982  
Co. B. 91st Inf. Trg. Bn.  
Post Garrison, Camp Roberts  
Calif.



Mrs. Emil Hunter  
Topeka  
Kansas







Camp Roberts, Calif.  
March 27, 1944

Dear Folks

Well I received your letter today. It sure takes a long time for mail to get back & forth. I also got a letter from Uncle Eddie today. I was sure glad to hear from home. I got the letter you sent to Leavenworth. I got it Sunday. I wrote to Boy that day also.

I was sure glad to get Bill's address. I was going to have you send it to me. Will you please send me Francis's address. If I get a week end pass we may have time to go to Los Angeles.

There are two boys about my age from Kansas. One of them came from Leavenworth with me & the other came from Colby, Kansas. They are all both swell boys.

I didn't get a chance to go to Church Sunday because we had to get some of our equipment. Rifles, bayonets & packs. I have gotten to go to Church the rest of the time though. They have some nice churches out here.

We have been doing quite a bit of studying about gases & first aid.

It sure seems funny to have you tell how it has been snowing back there because it get pretty hot out here in the day time but it frosts at nite some times.







If they don't have any money belts at Seneca you can send for one if you like. When you get my watch you can send it out. They have money belts here but they aren't much good. I would like to have a good one if I could get one so I think that I will let you get one for me.

We don't have to get up until about 5:20 now but we will probably get up earlier later on. We don't have much time at nite either we have about 2 hrs of classes at nite.

Say I want you to keep my to sport coats. The boys can have some of the older ones but I want the best ones. I may want some of them some day.

We sure have a swell bunch of officers. The Corporal is just a young fellow & we all like him. In fact all of our officers are young fellows.

Well it is time for the lights to go out so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim.





# LIBERTY



Camp Roberts, Cal  
April 1, 1944

Dear Folks

I received the packages that you sent me. I was sure glad to get them. It is really a nice model.

I got a letter from Uncle Eddie & also one from Bill H. He like the Navy but says he doesn't get much time off.

There was 105 more boys came out here from Leavenworth the other day but I haven't found anyone I know yet. I think I will go up there & see if there is anyone I know some time.

We have gone on a few hikes last week. We went on a 6 mile hike Friday with our full field packs & our rifles. Some of the rest of the boys got a few blisters & one man didn't make it at all but the rest of us made it all right.

Yesterday we went on a 7 mile hike with our combat packs which are lighter. We had to take our gas masks & rifles too. We also went through two gas chambers. We went through tear gas masks first. While we were in the Chamber we had to take our masks off & give our noses & serial no. & then walk out. After the we went into the Chlorine gas Chamber. We were in there with our masks off & then put them on in there before we got out.



gas. Most of us got them on all right. Our Lieutenant  
went in with us & he saw one man having  
trouble with his mask & so he helped him get  
it on & got to much gas himself. Clarence  
gas will make you cough & if you get an  
awfull lot it will make you vomit. This  
gas wasn't full strength so it has no bad  
effects.

One man in our platoon, got to much  
gas & they took him to the hospital but brought  
him back to camp shortly after. He was  
as good as ever though today.

We got a few more vaccinations Friday  
just before we went on our hike. My arms  
got pretty sore before we got back.

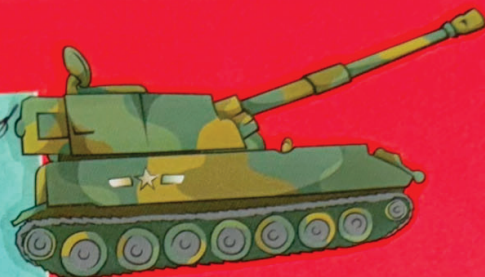
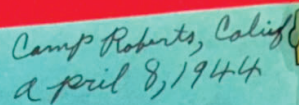
Well it is about bedtime so I will  
close for now.

When my ~~son~~ they get my watch  
fixed you can send it to me & I will  
send this one home. It doesn't keep too  
good of time.

Love  
Jim.







Dear Dan.

Dear Dan.

I received your letter & was glad to hear from you. You wanted to know why I hadn't written. Well I have written at least once a week & sometimes twice a week. The only time we have much time is on Sat. & Sunday. During the week they keep us too busy.

the week they keep us to busy.

Well I like the Infantry just fine. It is kinda hard but it is a lot of fun. Wed morning we got up at 4:00 & left at 5:30 on a 10 mile hike or march. When we got to our destination we had a few lessons on how to stop a tank with our rifles, hand grenades, & with the bazooka. The bazooka is quite a gun. It shoots rockets that are about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ins. in diameter & 8 inches long. It is a 2 man gun & it doesn't kick at all. The shells are set off by electricity.

After those classes we went out & dug

after those classes we went out & dug

4 8 inches long. It is a  
at all. The shells are set off by electricity.  
after those classes we went out & dug  
for holes which are 2 by 2 1/2 by 6 ft. After we  
had them dug we got down in them & had a  
tank run over us. a tank can't hurt you  
a bit when you have them dug right. That  
afternoon we learned how to build all  
kinds of tank barriers to stop a tank.

That nite we marched about a mile further down the road & pitched our tents. Each man has a shelter half in his pack. We put them together & have a pup tent.





Thursday we went back to the place where we were Wed. & had some classes about anti tank mines booby traps & anti personell mines. After our classes they took us out in a mine field & we had to find the mines dig them up & explode them. One of them went of pretty close to two of the boys. They got to Corrells with them. In the afternoon we studied how to hook up anti personell gear to mines & then we had to bury some of them. Each platoon buried theirs in a different place & then we would change places & dig up each others. One of these also blew up but no one was hurt.

at 5:00 that nite we started back to camp. We got back about 7:00. Some of them had big blisters on their feet, & some were awfully tired but I didn't have any blisters & I wasn't very tired.

Yesterday we had a few classes but didn't go on any hikes. This morning we had some bayonet practice & inspection. You really have to have your rifle & bayonets clean or they will gig you. When you get giged they put you on stry detail. The Lieutenant told me I had a real clean rifle this morning. Well it is getting late so I will close for now. I received the package with Lorie the coat hanger & medall.

Jim.



Free

Mr. Daniel Huerta  
Yoff,  
Kansas





UNITED STATES ARMY

Camp Roberts, Calif  
April 12, 1944

Dear To alks

I received your letter & the box of Candy Mon. The Candy was sure good. The boys here practically all get candy or a cake & they would all pass it around.

I heard that Smith got expelled from school & Dan was making up time after school. They will learn in time that it won't work.

I got a letter from Bill K. yesterday. He said that he liked the Navy & was all through with his training. He will probably get to go home before long.

We are having a tough week this week. We have gotten up at 4:30 every morning so far this week. We went out one night so far this week on a reconnison patrol. We was out until 10 o'clock that night. Tonight we go out again at 8:00 & will get back at 12:00.

We have been on the rifle range this week. It is a lot of fun but we have to





UNITED STATES ARMY



get in some of the darndest positions. They will be hard to get into until we get our muskels stretched for them. We haven't been firing any yet. It is what they call the dry range.

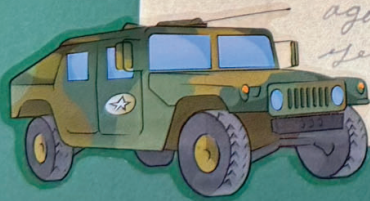
Next we will move out to the rifle range & start shooting. It is about 8 miles out so we will just move out there & save the time of walking out & back. We'll be out there four days so I probably won't be able to write next week.

Have you got the oats planted yet. They every one has talked it is still pretty cold though.

Well it is about time to leave so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim.

P.S. Have you heard from Bob lately. I wrote to him about 10 days ago but I haven't heard from him yet.







UNITED STATES ARMY

Camp Roberts, Calif  
April 16, 1944

Dear Tozals.

I received the telegram saying that Grandmother had died. I was very sorry to hear that. I tried to get a furla but couldn't. I couldn't even get away long enough to wire back. If you had have gone through the Red Cross I would of had more of a chance. If I had have come home it would have put me behind in my training & they would have put me in another company. I wouldn't know anybody there.

We have been on the dry firing range all week & at nite we would go out on night problems. Thursday nite we went on a ten mile hike with our full field packs. We had to get up at 4:30 all week & generally we didn't get to bed before 12:00 at nite. Sometimes it was later.

I got a letter from Bob the other day. I was sure glad to hear from him. He seems to be getting along all right. I also got the paper that the High School pupils put out. I was also glad to get that.

We get up at 3:30 tomorrow & start marching out to the rifle range. It is about 8 miles out







UNITED STATES ARMY

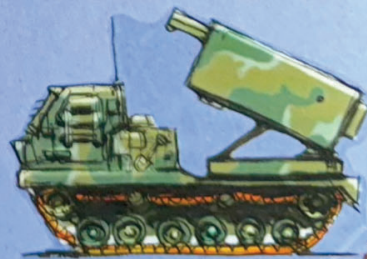
there. We are going to stay out there so we won't  
have to march back & forth every night & morning.  
That will be a lot nicer.

Say do you know whether one of the  
boarding boys from Seneca is out here. I  
thought I saw one of them in Church this  
morning.

Could you send me about \$5.00.  
They got all mixed up on our pay & we  
haven't gotten paid yet.

Well I can't think of much else  
to write so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim







Camp Roberts, Calif  
April 22, 1944



UNITED STATES ARMY

Dear Father

I received your letter & was sure glad to hear from home. It sure seems funny when you tell about it snowing back there. It get pretty hot here in the daytime & cool at nights.

I haven't gotten my watch yet but will probably get it before very long. My other one quit running Monday. We were on the rifle range shooting & I think it got forced to much.

We got to shoot our rifles for the first time Monday. We practiced the first part of the week & started shooting for record Friday. I done pretty good. I got a score of 167 out of a possible 200. There weren't very many more that done much better. I got a "Sharp Shooter's" medal. I would have liked to have gotten an Experts medal but wasn't good enough for it.

One boy in our platoon made a score of 192. That was the highest score made in our Battalion & our ~~platoon~~ platoon was second highest in the Battalion.

We were out on the range all week & didn't get back until 2 o'clock yesterday. It was awfully hot yesterday. We had to march about 5 miles back to Camp.







UNITED STATES ARMY

We have a new Corporal in our Platoon now. He seems like an awfully nice fellow. The Corporal that we did have got a promotion & is a Buck Sgt. now. He is an awfully nice fellow. He is only about 23 years old.

I was glad to hear that Dad got to come home. So daddy all through missing. He sure had a tough time of it & let. It was so muddy most of the spring.

We had a fairly nice time while we were out on the rifle range. Some of the boys in my tent got Cakes & Cookies & we would sit around our candle & read letters, talk, & eat.

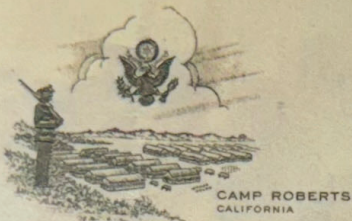
Well it is about Chow time so I will close for now.

I had my picture taken last week & will send you one as soon as I get them.

The Chow bell is ringing so I will have to close for now.

Love  
Jim





Dear Folks

Just a line or two to tell you that I got my money belt & the money A.M. It is really a nice one. Thanks a lot.

I have to go on M.P. pretty soon so don't have much time to write. I think that I might get to go L.A. next week end. It cost about \$12.00 for a round trip by Car which seems like quite a bit but it is also about 250 miles there.

I was on detail yesterday afternoon for having a dirty put plate on my rifle. I had to paint 7 garbage cans which wasn't so bad. There were a lot more that got gigged for having dirty rifles also. One good thing about it is that they don't take the ones off of pass for "giggs" anyway.

It is really getting hot out here now. Friday we had a candle out with us to blacken the sights on our B.A.R. & it really melted it. One boy had a tube of Vaseline in his pocket & the Cap came off of it & it run all over his pocket so you can see how hot it was.

Well here they are after the M.P. so I had better close for now.

I went to the show with the Corporal last night. The name of it was Days of Glory. Must close now.

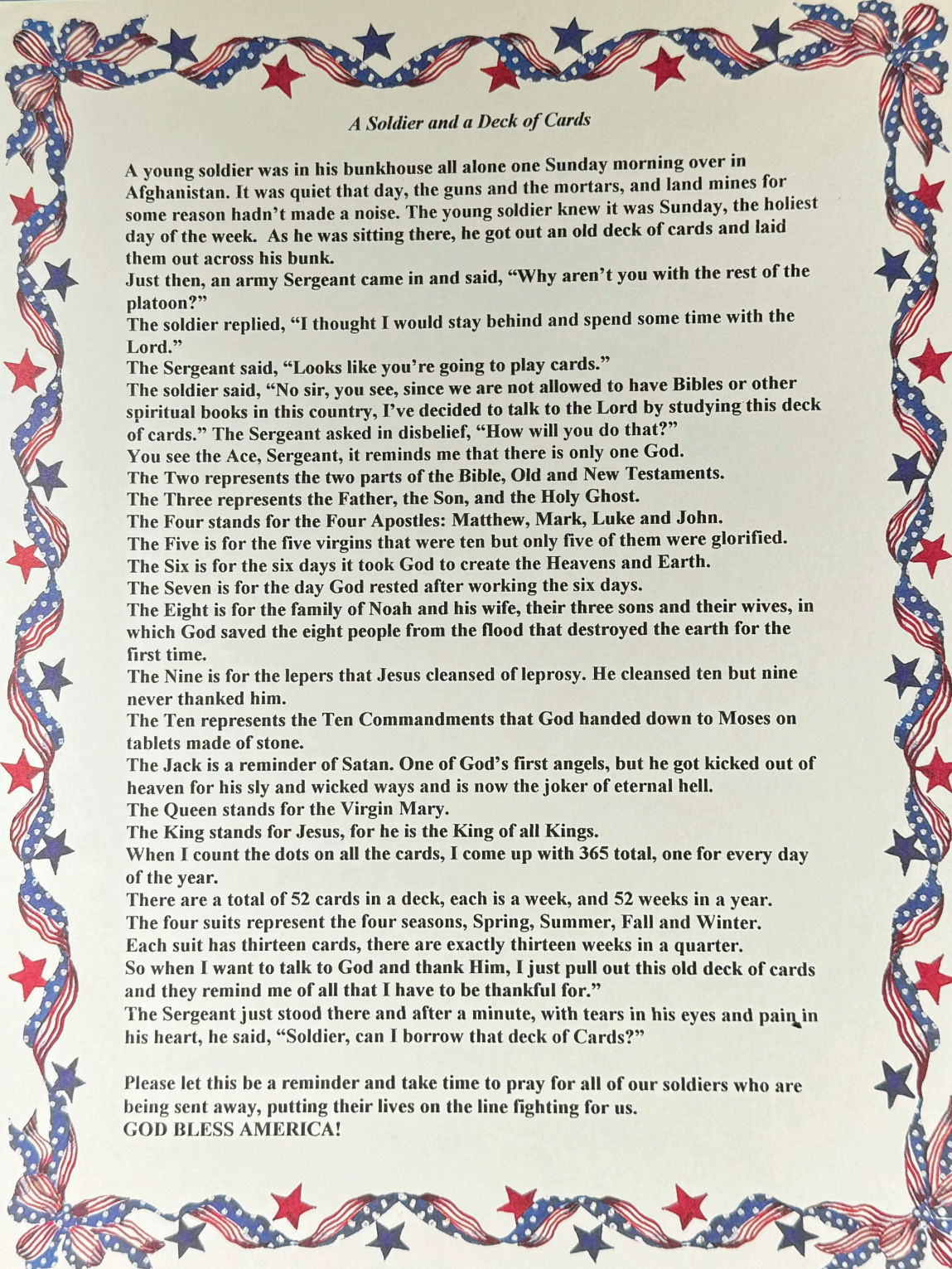
Love  
Jim



Mrs. Emil Hunter  
Topeka,  
Kansas







### *A Soldier and a Deck of Cards*

A young soldier was in his bunkhouse all alone one Sunday morning over in Afghanistan. It was quiet that day, the guns and the mortars, and land mines for some reason hadn't made a noise. The young soldier knew it was Sunday, the holiest day of the week. As he was sitting there, he got out an old deck of cards and laid them out across his bunk.

Just then, an army Sergeant came in and said, "Why aren't you with the rest of the platoon?"

The soldier replied, "I thought I would stay behind and spend some time with the Lord."

The Sergeant said, "Looks like you're going to play cards."

The soldier said, "No sir, you see, since we are not allowed to have Bibles or other spiritual books in this country, I've decided to talk to the Lord by studying this deck of cards." The Sergeant asked in disbelief, "How will you do that?"

You see the Ace, Sergeant, it reminds me that there is only one God.

The Two represents the two parts of the Bible, Old and New Testaments.

The Three represents the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

The Four stands for the Four Apostles: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The Five is for the five virgins that were ten but only five of them were glorified.

The Six is for the six days it took God to create the Heavens and Earth.

The Seven is for the day God rested after working the six days.

The Eight is for the family of Noah and his wife, their three sons and their wives, in which God saved the eight people from the flood that destroyed the earth for the first time.

The Nine is for the lepers that Jesus cleansed of leprosy. He cleansed ten but nine never thanked him.

The Ten represents the Ten Commandments that God handed down to Moses on tablets made of stone.

The Jack is a reminder of Satan. One of God's first angels, but he got kicked out of heaven for his sly and wicked ways and is now the joker of eternal hell.

The Queen stands for the Virgin Mary.

The King stands for Jesus, for he is the King of all Kings.

When I count the dots on all the cards, I come up with 365 total, one for every day of the year.

There are a total of 52 cards in a deck, each is a week, and 52 weeks in a year.

The four suits represent the four seasons, Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

Each suit has thirteen cards, there are exactly thirteen weeks in a quarter.

So when I want to talk to God and thank Him, I just pull out this old deck of cards and they remind me of all that I have to be thankful for."

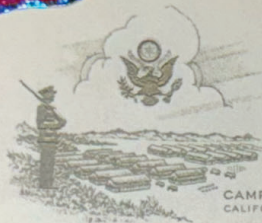
The Sergeant just stood there and after a minute, with tears in his eyes and pain in his heart, he said, "Soldier, can I borrow that deck of Cards?"

Please let this be a reminder and take time to pray for all of our soldiers who are being sent away, putting their lives on the line fighting for us.  
**GOD BLESS AMERICA!**



-1-

Camp Roberts, Calif.  
May 1, 1944



CAMP ROBERTS  
CALIFORNIA

Dear Folks.

I received your letter yesterday & intended to answer yesterday also but was too busy. We moved Sat afternoon & yesterday. My address is still the same. We just moved to a different part of the Camp. Boy was that a job.

I was on Guard duty Friday nite & got very little sleep & then worked until noon & went to back on guard at 12:15 until 6:00 & then helped them move.

I got the money you sent me & also my watch. I am going to send my other watch home one of these days. I finally got payed tonite. I got \$27.25. I sure wish you would get me a money belt if you could. I can't find any out here. Also send that padlock that has been laying around there.

I wrote to Bill & told him to send the padlock & my Camera & the films but I suppose he has forgotten it.

I had my picture taken about two weeks ago but haven't gotten them yet. I will send it home as soon as I get it. I would like to have it so I could send it home & you could have it for Mother's Day but I can't get it there by then.







CAMP ROBERTS  
CALIFORNIA

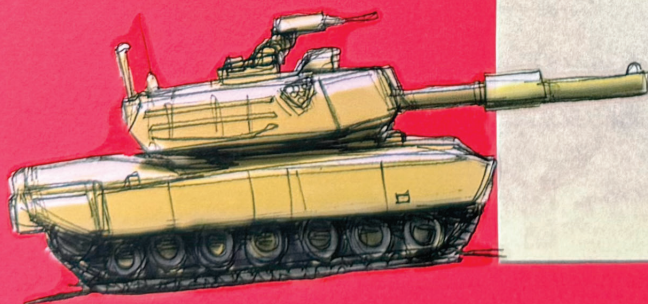
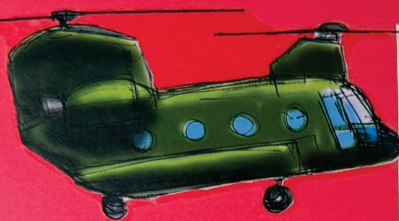
I got a card from Francis the other day. He wrote it in Topanga on his way back to Calif. He wanted to know if I could get to L.A. to see him. He said that if I couldn't that he might be able to come up to see me some time. One of the boys in the barracks says that his wife is coming out in his car & when she gets here that he will take us down.

We had some more rifle practice today. It is sure a lot of fun to shoot these rifles. They kick quite a lot but it is still a lot of fun.

We will shoot the Carbine & the B.A.R. this week. The Carbine shoots a 30 Caliber shell but is a lot smaller than the M1 that we have been shooting. It is also a lot smaller. The barrel is only 17 inches long on it. The B.A.R. or the Browning Automatic Rifle is a lot heavier than the M1. but shoots the same size of a shell. It is almost like a light machine gun.

We have been having some nice weather out here. It got pretty hot here today. It was the hottest it has been since I have gotten here.

We won't have any night problems this week so I think that I might get caught up on my letter writing.





- 2 -

So not till at Glenview or how you heard  
from him since he has gotten back.

Did Bill H. think that he would get to go  
to a school of ~~some kind~~ some kind.

Well I can't think of much else to write so  
I will close for now.

Love  
Jim

Pvt. James J. Huerta  
A.S.N. 27725982  
Co. B 91st Inf. Tng Bn.  
East Garrison, Camp Roberts  
Calif.



Free

Mrs. Emil Huerta  
Topeka,  
Kansas



May 14, 1944  
Camp Roberts

Happy  
Mother's  
Day!

Dear Tralpe

Well here it is Mother's Day & I haven't had a chance to get you anything yet. I went to Para Roberts yesterday & saw the proofs of the pictures I had taken. They were pretty good. I won't get them until the 26th of May. I thought that I would have them so I could send you one for Mother's Day but didn't get them in time.

I have really gained a lot of weight here. I weigh 155 lbs. I have gained 24 lbs.

We shot the B.A. R & the Corbine last Wed. & Thursday. I made an expert with the Corbine & sharpshooter with the B.A.R. We are going to shoot the Light Machine Gun sometime this week. I think that it will be a lot of fun to shoot it.

We didn't get very much sleep last week. We had some night problems until 2:30 & then had to get up at 4 the next morning. One night we went out on reconnaissance patrol & we climbed around on some of the steepest clamber hills. If you would slip you wouldn't stop rolling until you hit the bottom.





I got the money, money belt, & watch O.K.  
They sure do come in handy.

Is Dad home now? I got a letter from him  
& he said that he thought he was ready to go  
home. I don't think that I will send any more  
letters to his old address because he probably  
won't be there anyway. As soon as you get his  
new address you can send it to me & then I  
will write to him.

I have been getting the Seneca paper  
now. I can keep up on some of the news from  
home anyway.

Well I can't think of much else to  
write so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim.

P.S.

Dan! The boys all think that you  
are a pretty good artist. They were very good  
pictures.



LIFE  
LIBERTY  
and the PURSUIT of HAPPINESS





Camp Roberts  
May 22, 1944



Dear Talbs

How are all of you? I am just fine yet. Is it still raining back there. It has rained once since I have been here. It has been pretty cool here lately.

I say could you send me a little more money. We had our pictures taken here & I would like to have a couple of them. I also have to get my picture that I had taken in Pasa Robels Sat. also if I have the money by then.

We shot the Light Machine Gun Tuesday afternoon & Sat Morning. It was a lot of fun to shoot but I didn't make a very good score with it. I only got a score of 82 out of a possible of 109. It was still better than a lot of the scores though.

We have a tough week this week. We work until 7 o'clock several miles.





Wed. we have a night problem from 800  
until 4. These problems are a lot of fun but  
it is awfully tiresome.

Wed. we shoot the 60 M Motes.  
I hope that we don't have to carry them  
to for. They weigh 42 lb.

Well it is time for the lights to  
go out so I will have to close for  
now.

Love  
Jim

P.S.

L B is home now. He probably  
is by now.





May 28, 1944  
Camp Roberts, Calif.



Dear Talks

I got the money that you sent me O.K. I didn't sign up for a pass but the Corporal is going to get my pictures for me.

It was sure to bad that Bob had to go back so soon. I bet that he really felt bad about it. You can't depend on anything though while you are in service.

We are going to shoot the 60 M.M. mortar this week. It will be very interesting I think. We marched 14 miles Friday just to shoot the B.A.R. a few times.

We also have three night problems this week & don't get any time off for them.

There has been a lot of talk going around that all paratroops will leave here after there twelfth week of training. Whether we will or not I don't know.

I got an awfully nice box of cookies for my birthday Friday. Boy were they. That little girl can really cook.





Where is Bob stationed at now or have  
you heard from him yet. You probably  
have by now.

I saw a show last nite. It was pretty  
good. I think that I will go to the show  
tonite also.

Well I can't think of much to write  
about so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim



I am a small and precious child,  
my dad's been sent to fight...  
The only place I'll see his face,  
is in my dreams at night.  
He will be gone too many days  
For my young mind to keep track.  
I may be sad, but I am proud.  
My daddy's got your back.  
I am a caring mother.  
My son may go to war...  
My mind is filled with worries  
that I have never known before  
Everyday I try to keep  
my thoughts from turning black.  
I may be scared, but I am proud.  
My son has got your back.  
I am a strong and loving wife,  
with a husband soon to go.  
There are times I'm terrified  
in a way most never know.  
I bite my lip, and force a smile  
as I watch my husband pack...  
My heart may break, but I am proud.  
My husbands got your back...  
I am a soldier, Serving Proudly, standing tall.  
I fight for freedom, yours and mine by answering this call.  
I do my job while knowing, the thanks it sometimes lacks.  
Say a prayer that I'll come home. It's me who's got your back.







U. S. ARMY SERVICE CLUBS  
CAMP ROBERTS, CALIFORNIA

June 5, 1944

Dear Folks

I got your letter yesterday  
I was glad to hear from you.  
I also got a letter from Bob.  
I guess he really likes to fly  
those planes down there.

I wanted you to send the  
suitcase about the 1 of July. We  
will be through with our trig the  
15 of July. That is the day we  
graduate. We will be ready to  
leave here anytime after that. I still  
think we will get furloughs. At  
least 90 % of us will.

If you don't think it will get  
here before the 15 don't send it. The  
suitcase I mean.



God Bless America!!!



U. S. ARMY SERVICE CLUBS  
CAMP ROBERTS, CALIFORNIA

We have to have our furlough  
money by the 15 because we will  
start shipping out anytime after  
that.

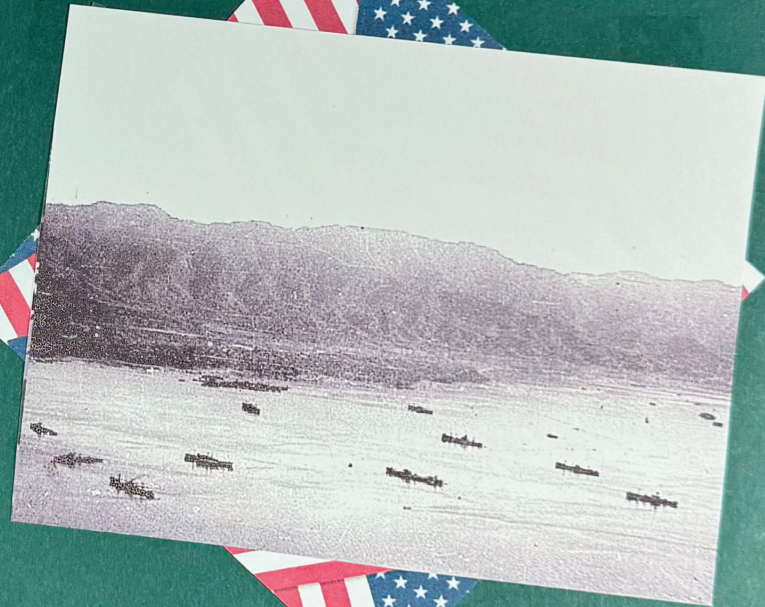
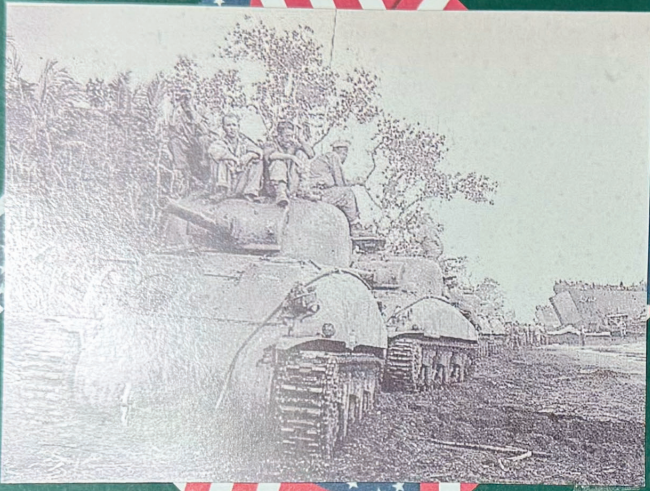
I got a card from Gladys June  
& she wants me to come & see her  
before I leave here. I don't think I  
will be able to though because I don't  
think we will get any more passes  
before we leave here.

We have only 3 days of bivouac  
left. I think we will all be glad  
to get back to camp again. We are  
really a dirty bunch. They won't  
hardly give us enough water to  
drink let alone to wash in.

Well this is my last sheet of  
stationery so I had better close.  
Love  
Jim.







Taking The Beach  
At Tacloban, Lyte  
In The "Phillipines"

B25's or C47's





June 2, 1944  
Camp Roberts

Dear Folks.

I received your letter but haven't gotten round to answer.

I went to Los Angeles Sat. & came back this morning about 4 o'clock. I got to see Francis & his girl friend. We sure had a lot of fun. Sunday I went on the milk route with Francis. I got to see a lot of the town that way.

He really has a nice girl friend. Maybe you got to see her when they were back there.

I got a letter from Bob tonight. He seems to like it O.K. there. I also got a letter from Jeannie Bradley. She said to tell you all hello. She is going to get a vacation about the 8 of July.

I got my pictures Sat. They are pretty good. I will try to







June 11, 1946

Dear Folks

It has been quite a while since I have written but they have been keeping us pretty busy lately. We haven't been working very hard but we have had some long hours.

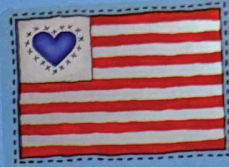
I haven't even had time to get some folders to send my pictures home in yet. I will have to go to the West Barrison to get them.

We had to work last Sat until six. We were shooting the M1 rifle.

I have gotten several letters from Bob S. & Al to lately. They are getting along O.K.

Did they get their maintainers yet. They probably have by now.

We heard what we will have to do in the Para-troops. We will have three weeks more of basic.



AMERICA



The first week we have physical  
try all week. The second week we have  
to learn to jump & how to land  
when we jump. The third week we  
make five jumps & one at nite. Then  
we will get our wings. After that  
we will have about 8 to 20 weeks of  
special training. One thing about  
it is that we won't have to go over  
seas so soon anyway. I don't know  
whether I told you this before or  
not but this is an infantry replacement  
training center & 96% of the boys go  
across as soon as their basic is over.

Say I think maybe I will  
~~have a chance to go to Los Angeles~~  
again Sat. I would like to have  
some money.

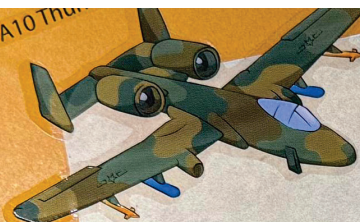
Well it is about time to close  
so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim





A10 Thunderbolt II



UNITED STATES ARMY



Dear Talks  
I got ~~my~~ your letter yesterday &  
was glad to hear from you.  
I got ~~the~~ money you sent me Sat.  
& got to go to Los Angeles also.  
Francis & I went to a dance & had  
quite a bit of fun. Sunday we went  
to Church first & then went down  
to Long Beach. They have an  
amusement park there right down  
on the beach.

We didn't go swimming but  
we went boat riding & had a lot  
of fun.

They had a small earthquake  
while I was there. We were in  
the house & it really did shake.  
I thought the house was going to  
fall in. It really scared me.







UNITED STATES ARMY

We had our 9 mile speed march this morning. We march 9 miles in 1 hour & 50 minutes. That is travelling right along. It was really a lot easier than I thought it would be.

We signed up for our ~~evening~~ Morall Turlows today. Next week we will start out on our bivouac. I probably won't get to write so often but will write as often as possible.

Tomorrow nite we have a nite problem & also Thursday.

We have to have our money ready to buy our train tickets when we get back from bivouac.

Well it is getting late so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim







June 22, 1944

Dear Folks

Well I have some time off so I will write a line or two. We had all morning off to clean our rifles & fool around. We had a nite problem last nite until 2:30. We also have one tonite.

This afternoon we have a 10 mile march & that is all.

One of the Corporals said this morning that the paratroopers would all get a delay in route on our way to Ga. I don't know how long it will be though. It won't count as a furlow & maybe we will get a furlow then when we finish down there.

Will you send me my little suit case about the 6 or 7 of July. Don't send it before then because we will be out on bivouac & I sure don't want it out there. We will have enough to





Carry anyway. Ha.

How is the hay this year. It should be pretty good. You have had enough rain anyway.

How does the wheat & oats look now. I hope you have a good crop. Albert Wilson wrote & said he sure wished I could be there for harvest. He hasn't gotten anyone to help yet.

Well it is about time to fall out so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim

P.S.

I probably won't get to write very often if at all while I am out on fivouac. So don't worry. I will try to write a card or something.





June 23, 1944



Dear Folks.

I don't have much time to write before the lights go out but I got some pictures pictures & am going to send them home. You can send some of the best ones to Bob so he can see what I look like. If you want to keep them you can have him send them back.

I am on R. P. tomorrow. Lucky me. I get out of inspection. I think I would rather stand inspection though.

I am going to get some folders tomorrow & will send me big pictures home then.

I hear that you are getting a awful lot of rain back there lately.

Well the lights are about to go out so I will close for now.

Love  
Jim

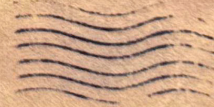
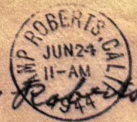
Let Freedom Ring!



F. Hueter

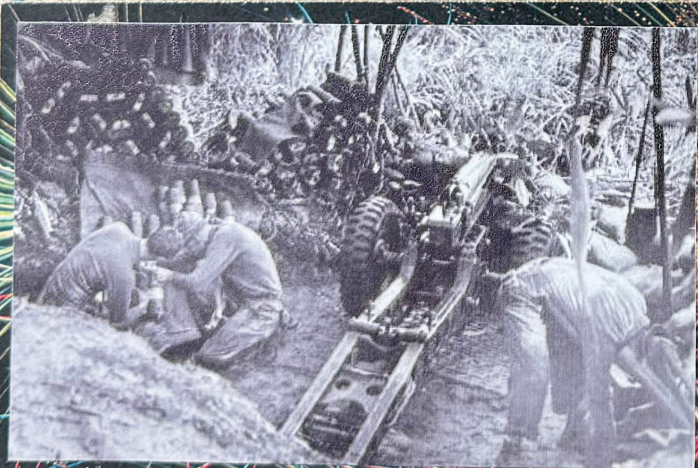
g. van.

n, Camp



Mr. Emil Hueter  
I off  
Kansas







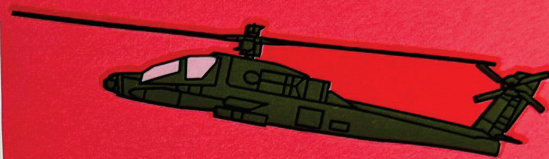


Dear Folks

Well here we are out on bivouac or rather we were on bivouac all day. I didn't think we would see Camp again for two weeks when we left this morning. Well they wanted some of us (2) to come back & clean up around here & I was one of the lucky ones.

The rest of the boys are out on a nite problem. It started at 8 & will last until 4 o'clock. One of the 4 miles 26 hr days. We had to get up at 2 o'clock & started marching out at 4.

They tell us that we are going to have two 25 mile hikes now. One Sat. from 7 to 8 P.M. That is the way they march different areas. Then Sat July 8 we march 25 miles back to Camp.



**ARMY**







We are only about 5 miles  
from camp now.

Well it is getting rather  
late so I think I will sign  
off & go to bed.

Love  
"Jim"

I may not get time to  
write for a while so if you  
don't hear from me don't worry.  
I will probably get a chance  
to write next Sunday anyway.  
They are going to say mass  
for us in the field.



July 1, 1944



Dear Folks

Well we have one week of bivouacs over with & have only one left now. It isn't so bad at all. We just have a review of the things we have already had. When we have a nice problem we get the next morning off.

We didn't get any sleep at all last night. We moved out of one bivouac area & came over here to P 17. It was a 17 mile walk. We left there at 11:30 & got here about 5 o'clock. It was nice & cool walking at night. I wasn't a bit tired when we got here. Next Sat we have a 25 mile hike back to camp.

I got a swell gift from Bob Tuesday morning while I was still in camp but I forgot his address so I can't write & thank him for it until I get back to camp. He also sent me a leather cigarette case. They are really swell.

Say if the boys can get any rifle shell tell them to get them. I would like to go hunting when I





get home.

I am almost positive we will get a furlow before we go to Ga. I don't know how long it will be though.

You will have to excuse the stationary. I carried it out here in my pocket & I sweat so much I got it all wet.

We are going to get to go to Church tomorrow. We have the whole day to ourselves.

We will have to have enough money to buy a round trip ticket back to Camp Roberts though. If we go on to Ga. we will get it refunded. I don't know why that is though. It will cost about \$8.

Well I guess I will close for now & try to catch some sleep.

Love,  
Jim.

We have killed about 20 rattlesnakes since we have been on the war. Some big ones with 13 rattlers & some real small ones.





July 10, 1944



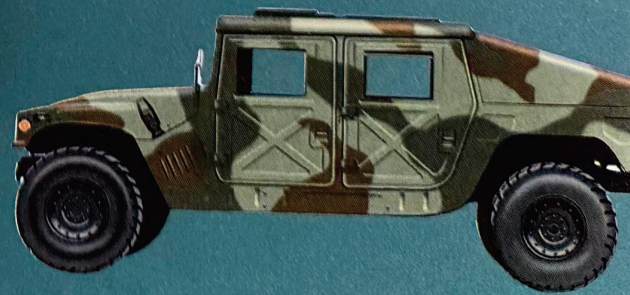
UNITED STATES ARMY

Dear Talks,

I received your letter today & was very glad to hear from you. Thanks a lot for the \$0. I don't really know whether we will get to come home or not but I still have hopes.

We finally got to come back to camp. We had to take a 25 mile hike to get here though. Some of the boys were really tired but it didn't bother me. I didn't even get a blister on my feet.

I went to L.A. again Sat. It was Francis's birthday. We went to a show Sat. nite. Sunday we went to a Rodeo. It was really good.







UNITED STATES ARMY

We got to see Roy Rodgers  
Rogers, Betty Hutton, Andy Devine,  
Joe Brown, Gene Autry a lot  
of others such as Gabby Hayes. I really  
enjoyed it. The Memorial  
Coliseum is really a large place.  
It will seat about 15,000 people.

Well it is about time for our  
nite problem so I had better  
close for now.

Love  
"Jim"

Let Games & Hutton

# 3773 5482

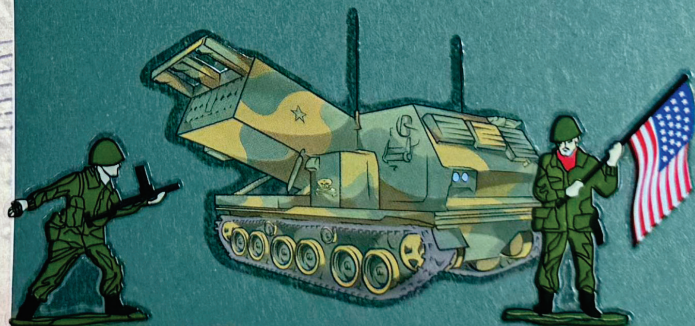
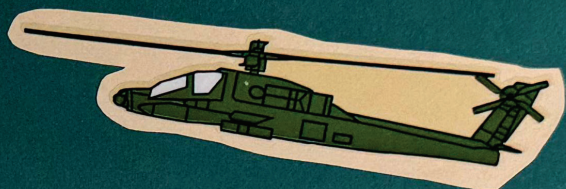
Co. B 91 Inf. Trg. Bn.

East Garrison, Camp Roberts  
Calif.



Mr & Mrs Hutton

G off





CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

1204

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

K H CK 9

WUX EG Camp Roberts Calif 1256 PM July 11 1944

Enil Huerter  
Goff, Kansas

Dear Folks paratroops are getting furloughs will need \$50

James

357 PM

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE





UNITED STATES ARMY

July 17, 1944

Dear Folks

Well we finally graduated from Camp Roberts. We graduated Sat. morning. I will send my diploma home one of these days.

I got the money you sent me but I guess ~~me~~ I won't get to use it as yet anyway. They told us that we wouldn't get a furlow after all. That is the dinky for you.

We will be leaving here anytime now so don't write until I get a new address.

I still think we will go to Ga. but don't know for sure. I hope we go down there.

I suppose that you are all through cutting the grain.







UNITED STATES ARMY

I would sure like to be home for a few days now. I guess I can wait a while longer though.

They had a big steak supper for us Wed. nite. Friday nite they had a big beer ~~drum~~ party for us. I went to the West Garrison though to get the money order.

I hope that if I get to S. A. I can get off to go down to see Bob graduate. I think I will be able to see him anyway.

We turned in our rifles today & cleaned the barracks all up. We are all ready to move out at any time now.







UNITED STATES ARMY

Well I can't think of much  
else to write so I will close  
for now. Don't write to  
me at this address anymore  
as I will be gone before a letter  
could get here.

I must close for now.

Love  
"Jim"

*America the Beautiful*







UNITED STATES ARMY

I would sure like to be home for a few days now. I guess I can wait a while longer though.

They had a big steak supper for us Wed. nite. Friday nite they had a big beer ~~drum~~ party for us. I went to the West Garrison though to get the money order.

I hope that if I get to G. A. I can get off to go down to see Bob graduate. I think I will be able to see him anyway.

We turned in our rifles today & cleaned the barracks all up. We are all ready to move out at any time now.







UNITED STATES ARMY

July 23,

Dear Folks,

Well we are going to finally leave this place. We leave sometime tomorrow. We go to Ft. Benning. Our try is to start down there July 31. We will have six weeks of basic down there. After that we will get a furlow. We will then go to a Unit in the US somewhere for some more try.

All the boys over 18 years old got furlows & go back to Ft. Ord & from there they will go across.





-2-



UNITED STATES ARMY

The 18 years olds go to Camps  
in Miss. & Texas.

There will be a bunch of  
new rookies coming in tomorrow  
morning.

We didn't have to do much  
this week. Just a few details.

I suppose you are about  
through harvesting by now.  
How was the wheat & Oats.  
It should have been pretty  
good this year. You had  
enough rain anyway.

Did the boys ever get the  
28 to running. If they did  
what was the matter with it.

We have been getting having  
some nice weather out here  
lately.



UNITED STATES ARMY

I haven't seen it rain since  
I left Kansas. I hope it  
rains once in the white dawns  
in Georgia.

Well I can't think of anything  
to write so I will close for now.  
I will write to you as soon as  
I get to Georgia.

Love  
Jim



God Bless America!!!



July 31, 1944

Dear Folks,

Well we finally got to Ft. Benning after so long of a time. We went in a round about way. I will send you a map to show you the way we traveled.

We got here last nite Sunday about 12 O'Clock. It was really raining. The first rain I have seen since last summer. I was really glad to see it rain. It looks like it might rain again tonite. It is hotter here than it was in Calif.

We start our training tomorrow morning. I guess it is a little rugged the first two weeks. We have a lot of physical trig. It really makes a man out of you though.

The first two weeks we have physical trig. all day. The third



week we will start our practice jumping & also the 4 week. The 5 week we make four day jumps & 1 mile jumps. Then we get a furlow. After that we come back here & get our advanced try.

I like this country a lot better than Calif. We didn't get to see any green grass until we got back to Texas. It looked like you had been getting a lot of rain there.

I got as close to home as Topeka. I wish we would of had a layover there instead of R.C. We layed over there for 8 hours. I called for Mrs. Munsel but she hadn't got home from work yet.

We had a long layover in Los Angeles & I got to see Francis again before I left Calif.

AMERICA



Sat We had a 10 hr. layover in  
Nashville, Tenn. We went swim-  
ming for a while & then went to  
a dance. Sunday we got into  
Birmingham Ala. about 10 clock  
& had until 4 that nite so we  
went swimming again.

Well I guess I will close  
for now & write to Bob.

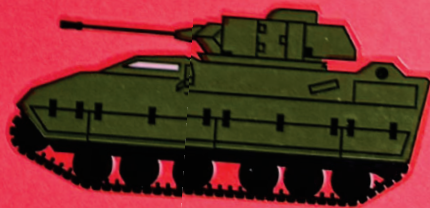
Love  
Jim.

Priv. James J. Hueter

3773 5982

Co "L" 1<sup>st</sup> P. T. R. Class 136

Ft. Benning, Ga.









Sunday  
Aug. 6, 1944

Dear Folks.

How is everyone at home?  
Just fine I hope.

We moved again & I have  
a new address so I thought I  
would write & let you know  
what it was.

When we were in Co. I  
we was in Ala. & now we  
are in Georgia. Just across the  
River about 4 miles.

We are just about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile  
from the Main Post now.  
The main post is really a pretty  
place. a lot of nice green grass &  
trees. They have some big brick  
building there also. This is  
supposed to be one of the prettiest  
camps in the U.S.

We are going to start on a  
stage tomorrow. It is sup-  
posed to be easier than Prea.



**ARMY**





We will be able to run about 5 miles by the end of next week. We will do a lot of running & calisthenic exercises during "A" stage.

We have seen a lot of boys make their jumps already. It looks like it will be a lot of fun.

How was the wheat & oats this year. It should have been pretty good. You got enough rain anyway. The corn in Kansas looked awfully good when we went through.

Well it is about time to go back on guard so I had better close for now.

Love  
"Jim"

P.S. I got a real U. S. hair cut the other day. My hair is only about an inch & a half long now.

One Nation,  
under God...  
with Liberty  
and Justice for all.

Land  
of  
Liberty

The American  
Spirit lives forever.



In God we trust.

U. S. ARMY PARACHUTE TROOPS

Sunday  
Aug. 13, 1944

Dear Folks

I received your letter the day before yesterday & was very glad to hear from you. It was the first mail I had gotten since I had been here. I got a letter from Bob Schneider yesterday.

You ask about the suit case. I didn't get my suitcase but I did get the little travelling bag that he sent me. I wrote to him but have never heard from him yet. He should be almost through down there now. He is probably pretty busy.

I went to Church this morning. they really have a nice Chapel. They even haul us over there in trucks. It is about a mile from here.

It is really getting hot here again today. It hasn't rained here for four days now.

I don't know whether I told you or not but I got all of my hair



AMERICA





U. S. ARMY PARACHUTE TROOP

Cut off. Waves & everything. I really  
 look funny with a G. I. We have  
 to have our shoes polished in the  
 morning & noon when we go to  
 classes & we also have to have a  
 clean shave & our hair cut short.  
~~We got our boats last Sat.~~  
 They are really nice. We start using  
 them tomorrow.

Well I can't think of anything  
 else to write so I will close for  
 now.

Love  
 Jim

FROM: Pvt. James F. Hunter #37735982

Co B 541 Parachute Inf.

Ft. Benning, Ga.

U. S. ARMY



Free



Mrs. Emil Hunter  
 Off  
 Kansas



THESE  
 colors  
 DON'T  
 run



Sunday  
Aug. 20, 1944



UNITED STATES ARMY

Dear Falbo

How are you all? I am as good as ever.

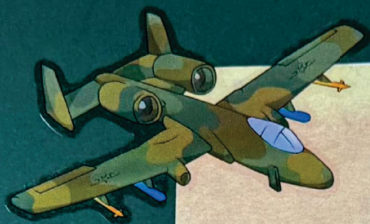
We finished B stage Sat. & will start on C stage tomorrow. It was really a lot of fun to jump off of those 34 ft. towers after the first time. I think everybody was a little scared the first time.

Tomorrow we will start on the 250 ft. towers. They put us in a parachute & pull us up & let us go. We will practice body turns & slips & also landing. I think it will be a lot of fun.

A week from tomorrow we will make our first jump







UNITED STATES ARMY

from a plane. We will make the first jump at 1200 ft.

I know how to pack a chute now. We spend half the day packing chutes. We will pack them for the first five jumps.

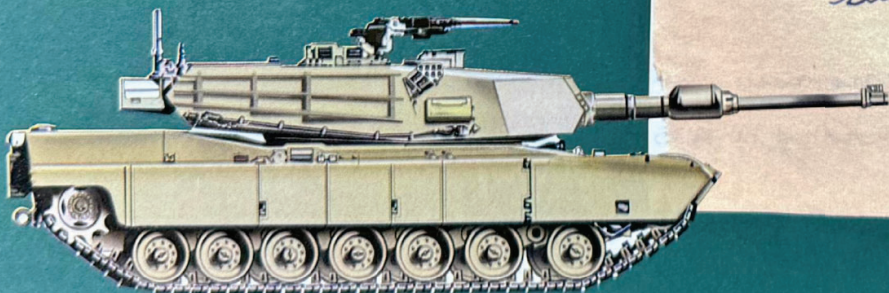
Well it is nice & cool here today for the first time. I sure hope it stays this way.

Do you know whether Bob sent the little suitcase or the hand bag to me in Calif. I got the little hand bag but no suit case. If you have the suit case please send it to me.

Well I must close for now.

Love  
Jim

U.S. ARMY





Thursday



UNITED STATES ARMY

Dear Father

I received your letter tonite & was glad to hear from you. I was also glad to hear that you got a rain. I guess you needed one.

We have to work tonite. We have to jump from the 250 ft. towers tonite. They put us in a parachute & pull us to the top of the towers & release us. It is just like the rides at the fair. It is really a lot of fun.

That was O.K. about the suit case. I am glad now that I didn't have it. I wish you would send it to me right away though. I think I will







UNITED STATES ARMY

to coming home before too long  
now. I sure hope so anyway.

Monday we will make  
our first jumps. They say it  
is really quite a thrill.

Well it is almost time to  
go to work so I will close  
for now.

Love  
Jim

Post James J. Huenter

#37735982

Co "C" 541 Parachute Bn.

Fort A. Benning, Ga.



Free

Mrs. Emil Huenter

Goff,

Kansas

# OLD Glory



One Nation,  
under God...  
with Liberty  
and Justice for all.



U. S. ARMY PARACHUTE TROOPS

Tuesday Noon  
Aug. 29, 1944

Dear Folks.

Well I have made two jumps now & am O.K. I have a red mark on my shoulders. It is really a lot of fun I think. We made both jumps from 1200 ft.

It was cloudy yesterday morning so we had to wait until in the afternoon to jump. It was nice this morning so we got to jump this morning.

It has been rather cool down here lately. I hear it has been raining quite often back there lately & it is also pretty cool.

It is time for Chow so I will have to cut this kinda short.

Love

P.S. If everything goes O.K. Jim  
I should be home in two weeks

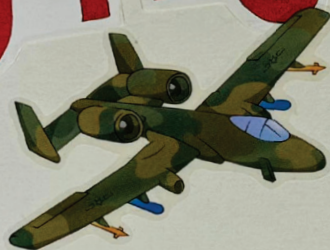
Land  
of  
Liberty

The American  
Spirit lives forever.

America  
be proud!



# Flying High







Sept 26, 1944

Birmingham  
Ala.

Dear Folks.

Just a line to tell you  
that I am pretty back. We  
got here about 2:30 & our train  
leaves here at 4:50. We will  
get back about 2 hrs late.

Say I have Bill's B.  
Book with me & will  
send it back to.

It has cooled off quite  
a bit down here. I am sure  
glad of that. Maybe this is  
just a cool day though.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE  
THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS  
THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELLERS AID ASSOCIATION  
U S O IS FINANCED THROUGH THE NATIONAL WAR FUND



I met Kenneth Huber in W.C.  
alright. We changed our tickets  
in Kansas City & got on a  
faster train so we won't be  
so very late getting back.

I guess our address will  
be. Pvt James J. Hueter.  
#37735982  
Co B. 2nd P.T. B.  
Fort Benning, Ga.

I can't think of much else  
to write so will close  
for now.

Love  
Jim.



I



SERVICE CLUB NO. 7  
ALABAMA TRAINING AREA  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

Wednesday  
Oct. 5, 1944

Dear Folks

I received your letter  
today & was sure glad to  
hear from you. I was also  
glad to get the pictures.  
The boy that was smoking  
the cigar is Robert Fritzgerd.

Kenneth Kuper is sick  
now & is in the hospital.

I don't know what is  
the matter with him.

I will try to get over  
to see him about Sunday.

We have really been learning  
a lot about the rifle machine  
gun & the Browning sub  
machine gun. They teach

AMERICA





SERVICE CLUB NO. 7  
ALABAMA TRAINING AREA  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

11  
us move in a day here than  
they did in a week in Camp  
Roberts.

We go out on the range  
tomorrow & will fire all the  
weapons again. They have  
a new kind of Bazooka  
here. It is a lot better  
than the old type. We  
will also shoot the sub  
machine guns.

I guess we will be  
here at least another week  
maybe two. We are supposed  
to jump a week from today  
if we are still here.

I was glad to hear





III



SERVICE CLUB NO. 7  
ALABAMA TRAINING AREA  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

that Bill & Lindy are  
getting along A.K. I wrote  
to them both the other day.

I guess that Goff's  
football team just isn't  
going to do very good  
this year.

Well I can't think of  
anything else to write so  
will close for now.

Love  
Linn

In God we trust.



America  
be proud!





SERVICE CLUB NO. 7  
ALABAMA TRAINING AREA  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

Oct. 9, 1944  
Monday Mite

Dear Folke

Well I am still in Ft. Benning & will probably be here until Sat. maybe longer.

I got a letter from Bob today. He wanted to know if I would be here long enough to be the Best man at he & Bert's wedding. I wrote to him & told him I would probably be gone before then.

I sure hope something turns up so that I am still here then. I would like to see him before I leave but probably won't get the chance.



SERVICE CLUB NO. 7  
ALABAMA TRAINING AREA  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

I am writing this in a hurry because the lights are about to go out.

We are supposed to jump again Wed. I hope everything goes O.K.

Kenny Huber got Phenomenia shortly after we got back down here. I was over to see him yesterday. He is up & around again now.

We had to run the Bayonet Assault Course today & had to wade in mud & water up to our hips. I fell down & really got muddy.



U.S. ARMY

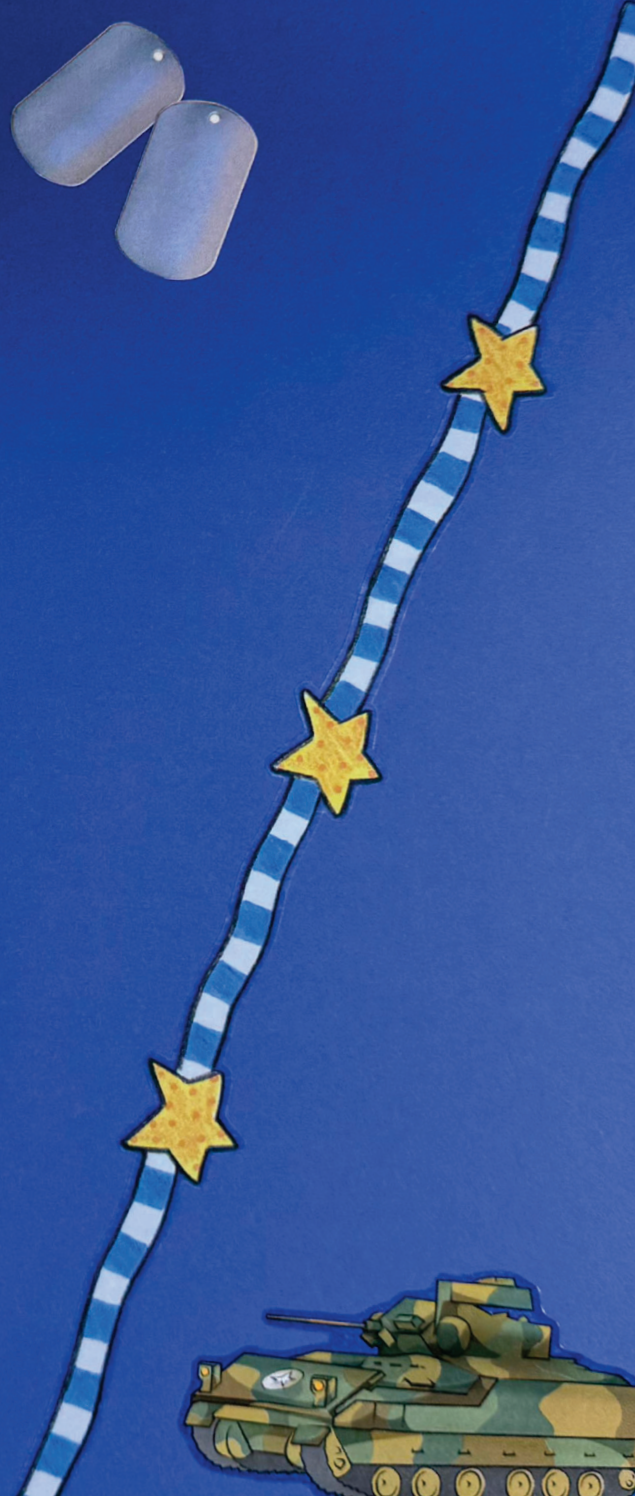


SERVICE CLUB NO. 7  
ALABAMA TRAINING AREA  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

It got awfully cold down  
here last nite. I would sure  
hate to be here during the  
winter.

Lights going out. Must  
close.

Love  
Jim





ARMY



U. S. Army Parachute Troops

Dear Folks

Well I am on my way some-  
where but don't know just where.  
I think we will go to Ft  
Ord.

We are now in Atlanta, Ga.  
& think we are headed for Calif.  
I sent my suitcase home this-  
morning. It has Gracie's picture  
in it. It was too big to carry.  
I guess I will have to get a  
smaller one.

Thanks a lot for the \$40. I  
didn't need it though. We got  
paid. I drew \$88. I loaned two  
of the boys \$5 apiece & they payed it  
back. I was going to send some  
of it home but didn't get the chance.





I sent my camera & films home also. I want you to see the films. When I get through traveling I would like to have you send it to me. I can maybe take some pictures then.

We made our last jump in the U.S. Wed. Some of the boys got hurt on that jump. Not bad though. We had about 65 lbs. of equipment on. I wasn't nearly as sore as I was on the first five.

Tues.  
I got to talk to a Lieutenant that was in our Platoon leader in Camp Roberts. He was very glad to see us.

Well must close for now. Will write when I get to where I am going.

Love  
Jim







Sunday.



U. S. Army Parachute Troops

Dear To Alko

Well we just went through  
K.C. again. They must like to  
send me back & forth across the

U.S.

I don't know whether or  
not we will go through Topeka  
or not. If we do I will try to  
mail this letter there.

I wrote & told B of that  
I had left B enring. I hope  
he gets the letter before he tries  
to go up there to see me.

I thought that probably  
we would go to Europe but I guess  
we are going the other way. I  
don't know how long we will







U. S. Army Parachute Troops

be in Ft. O. ord. I hope a week or  
so anyway.

We will probably get there  
about Wed or Thursday. We left  
Benning about noon Friday.  
Have been making pretty good  
time so far.

Well I can't think of much  
to write so I will close for  
now.

Love  
Jim







UNITED STATES ARMY

A. I. Ord. Calif.  
Oct. 20, 1944

Dear Folks

Well here I am in Calif.  
once again. I don't know how  
long we will be here.

This is a very nice Camp.  
The best that I have ever seen.  
They really go to feed us some  
good Chow to.

We are just about a mile from  
the Ocean. You can't see it  
from the Barracks. There is a  
row of hills between the ocean  
& here.

One of the Sgt. that took  
his jump trig. with us has  
his Car here. He took some of  
the M. T. car. The car was sent



HMMVV





UNITED STATES ARMY

There a little while. It seems to be a very nice town though. We can get 24 hr. passes. I would like to go to Los Angeles but it is too far away. I may go to San Francisco over the week end. That is where Sgt. Morris lives & I think about three of us are going up with him.

How is everything around home. How is Bill's leg getting along.

Well I guess I will have to close for now.

Pvt. James J. Hunter  
437435982

10 B 2nd Replacement Regt. Jim  
24 F R D 42

Love  
Jim







UNITED STATES ARMY

Dear Father

Just a line or two to tell you that I am O.K. I will be shipping probably ~~Friday~~ Thursday.

We check out a bunch of new cloths one day & the next day we turn them back in. What a life.

This afternoon we have to go through the gas Chamber. That is all the training we will get here.

I really had a swell time over the week end. I went to San Francisco with one of the Sgts. We really took the town in. He lives up there & had his car down here.

We had to take all of our patches off of our cloths. I am sending them to ~~any~~ everyone that wanted them. The boys

Forever in peace may it w

God Bless America!







UNITED STATES ARMY

Can fight over the one in here. I think  
I am has one already. Did you get my  
suit case yet. I will sent the key in  
this letter.

Whe

Say is there anyway of making  
a smaller picture out of a larger one.  
If there is get Gracie's picture made  
smaller unless it will ruin the big  
picture.

We'll must close for now.

Love  
Jim



You're a Grand Ol' Flag!



Dear Folks

Thursday.  
Nov 9. 1944

Well I guess it is about time for me to write. It has been quite a while since I have written.

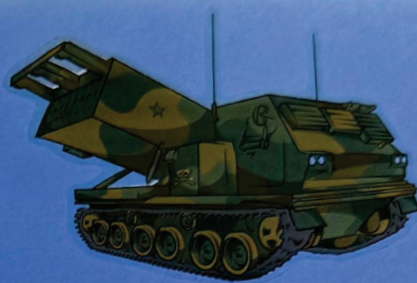
I guess you can tell by the address why I haven't.

We get the news every day & saw that Roosevelt is to be our President for another four years.

Did Bob get his wings yet? I suppose that he has.

If so did he get enough time off to come home? Did he get married yet? They won't let us write about much so I will have to ask a lot of questions.

I suppose Bill has the cast off of his leg by now.



Does it bother him any? I hope it doesn't.

I guess it is probably a little cold back there by now. It is getting about that time of the year.

Dad daddy started to shuck the corn yet. It should be pretty good this year. at least it looked good when I was home. Did he get the wheat planted A. K. I guess that he was probably a little short on help this fall.

Well I can't think of anything else to write so will close for now. Love.





Did you get my suitcase &  
boots yet.

Priv. James G. Hueter  
#3773 5982  
A.P.O. 15563  
To Postmaster  
San Francisco, Calif.

Send me my camera & films  
as soon as you can. Pack it good  
so it won't get broken.





192 Reg. Co. - 5 Reg. Depot.  
A.P.O. 71170 Postmaster  
San Francisco, Calif.

Nov. 16, 1944  
Somewhere in  
New Guinea

Dear Folks

I suppose you have been wondering what has happened to me. I guess that you will know now.

I can't tell you what part of New Guinea we are in but it isn't such a bad place here. It gets cool at nite & hot in the day time.

We had a very nice trip over here. I got a little sea sick but not bad. Some of the sailors got a lot sicker than I did.

Most all the boys that took Infantry Basic with



McArthur's  
B17 "Bataan" At  
17 Mile Strip



us in Camp Roberts are here.

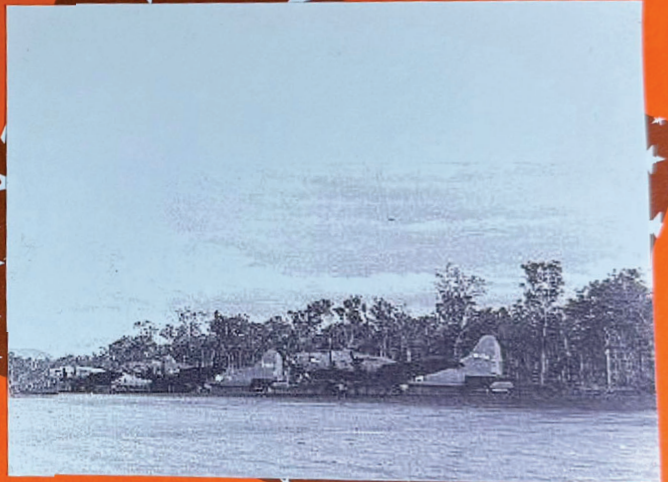
We looked them all up last nite. They was sure glad to see us. I was sure surprised to see all of them again.

Now is everybody back in Kansas? Just fine I hope. I suppose it is pretty cold there now. How are the cripples getting along. I suppose they are as good as new by now.

Have you started shucking corn yet. It should be pretty good this year.

The only way you can send anything over here is if we request it. Then you have to put the letter in the package.

I want you to send me my Camera & all the films you can get. Also send me Gracie's picture. Wrap them up awfully good so they won't break.



B17 Flying Fortress  
at 17 mile strip  
Moresby, Papua,  
New Guinea.



Nov. 23, 1944

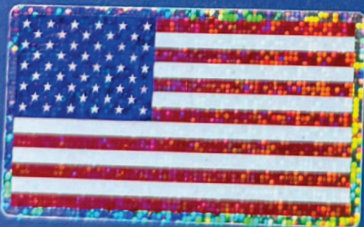
Dear Folks

Well I finally got some mail yesterday. It had been 30 days since I had gotten any. I got three letters from you. I got sixteen altogether.

Did Daddy go to Mayagüez yet. I sure hope he gets along. I think that he will.

Today is Thanksgiving here. I didn't get to go to Church this morning as we were working. Maybe I can go this evening. We are to have turkey for dinner.

I got a letter from Dorothy Ansdell & she said that she was out to see you.



Bill has probably gotten rid of his cast & crutches by now.

Did Bob get to come home when he graduated? Did he & Verda get married yet.

Gracie didn't come down to see me. When I found out I wasn't to be in Ft. Benning very long I told her not to come down.

I've been waiting to have seen her for I left the States though. I guess I can wait though.

I don't know much to write so will close for now.

Love  
Ann





Post the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small letters are not suitable.

To: **MR. EMIL HUERTER**  
**GOFF,**  
**KANSAS**

From: **PELLABES HUERTER**  
**1020 BEECH STREET**  
**APR 27 1944**  
**SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.**  
**Mar 12 1944**

Dear Father

Have as surprising back home. I just found here  
I am 17. I had to be 18. I was born this  
morning. I really had a lot of it to do.

It is now 30'clock Sunday afternoon here.  
Back there it is 10'clock Sunday morning. I  
was in a hurry.

We are here getting a Coconut every  
once in the while now. They are pretty good.  
I am going to send one home when I get  
a chance.

Could you get me a good Cigarette light  
some fluid & a few extra flints. We can't  
even get matches here. We get a Candy bar  
once in the while. Not very often. I heard  
I haven't gotten any small but hope to  
get some before very long. At least we have  
anyway.

Well I had better close for now.  
Love  
Pellabes

WAR & NAVY  
DEPARTMENTS  
V-MAIL SERVICE  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
No. 3

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300





Nov. 24, 1944

Dear Folks.

Now is everybody back home.  
Just fine I hope. I am still  
O.K.

It rained all afternoon today.  
Thanksgiving day back home.  
It is all over though now. It is  
now 6:30 here Friday morn.  
Four thirty Friday morning  
back there.

Did Daddy get overated  
on. I hope he is going O.K.  
if he did. It was probably  
kinda tough going back then.  
Bill breaking his leg & dad  
having to have an operation.

I made a couple of proclits  
out of Australian money.



They are nice souvenirs I  
think. I am going to send  
you one as soon as I get time.  
I don't know what I will  
be able to send everyone for  
Christmas. There just isn't  
anything to buy here.

I did get a few V-mail  
Christmas cards the other day.  
I will have to send them out  
one of these days. It will  
probably take until then for  
them to get there.

There are really some beautif-  
ul places around here. A lot  
of trees that I have never seen  
before. There is also a lot of nice  
green grass.





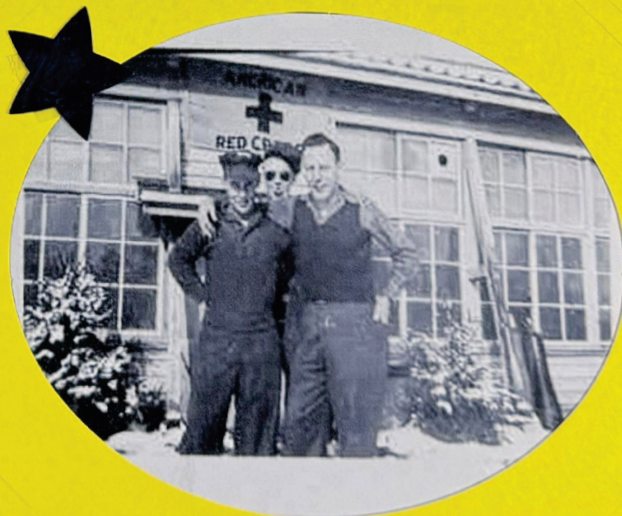
They killed a big pythian  
snake close here about three weeks  
ago. I didn't get to see it. They  
said it was 16 ft. long. I guess  
they get pretty big.

Well I can't think of much  
else to write so I will close  
for now. Tell me how everybody  
spent Thanksgiving.

Loyl  
Linn

Write as much as possible.  
It is much faster.

I pledge allegiance  
to the Flag  
of the  
United States  
of America  
and to the  
Republic for which  
it stands,  
one nation under God,  
indivisible with  
liberty and justice  
for all.





-1-

Nov. 26, 1944

New Guinea

Dear folks

Well I haven't gotten any mail for a week now, so I don't know what to write about.

How is everybody back home? Just fine I hope. I am gaining weight so I guess I am O.K. Last week I weighed 154 lbs. Not bad.

I and a couple other boys went to the beach & went swimming yesterday afternoon & also this afternoon. We really had a lot of



PROPERTY  
OF  
U.S. ARMY

-2-

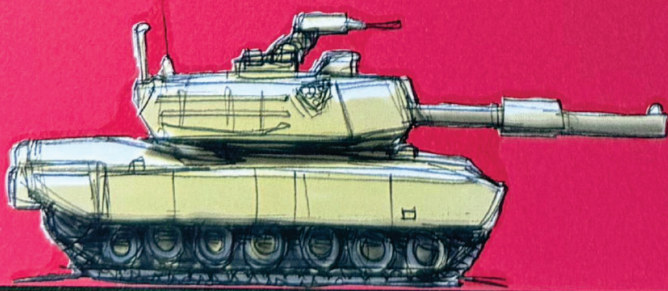
fun.

I am in a different company now. My new address is 296 Reg. Co. 5 Reg. Depot. The rest is still the same.

They have some books at the Red Cross with names & addresses of people from different States.

I found Walter Clellan, name also Jack Stolzberg from Wetmore, & a Houlihan boy from Seneca. There were several from Sabatha. I don't think Walt Clellan is here anymore.

We really had a rain last night. It washed





-3-

out several bridges around here. It has rained every night for the last week. Have you had any snow back there yet. We won't ever have to worry about snow here.

We are all getting yellow from taking A tabrine pills. They are to keep us from coming down with Malaria. There are very few cases around here.

Say do you think that you could find me a 38 or 45 Colt. revolver. I would like

~~proud to be an~~  
american



-4-

to have one if possible. I think you can send them A. J. J.

If you ever go to Topeka you may be able to find one. I would rather have a 38 but a 45 would be A. J. J.

Will you send me Bob's address or send mine to him. I lost his.

If you ask about Henry Huber. I don't know where he will go. I sure hope we get together again. He is really a swell kid.





-3-

out several bridges around here. It has rained every night for the last week. Have you had any snow back there yet. We won't ever have to worry about snow here.

We are all getting yellow from taking A tabrine pills. They are to keep us from coming down with Malaria. There are very few cases around here.

Say do you think that you could find me a 38 or 45 Colt revolver. I would like

american  
*proud to be an*



-4-

to have one if possible. I think you can send them O.R.

If you ever go to Topeka you may be able to find one. I would rather have a 38 but a 45 would be O.R.

Will you send me Bob's address or send mine to him. I lost his.

If you ask about Henry Huber. I don't know where he will go. I sure hope we get together again. He is really a swell kid.





-5-

Well I can't think of  
anything else to write  
so will close for now.

Love  
Jim

P.S.

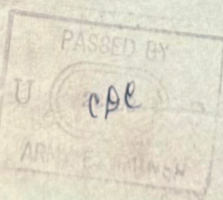
Send me Bop Schneiders  
address also.



Pvt James J. Huarter  
#37435982  
192 Reg Co. 5 Reg Dep  
A.P.O. 711 To Postmaster  
San Francisco, Calif.

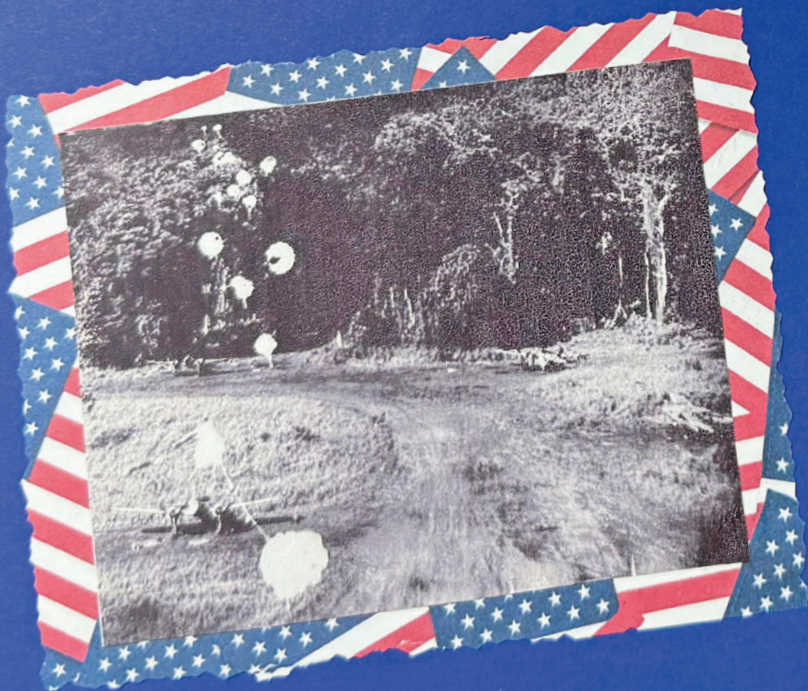
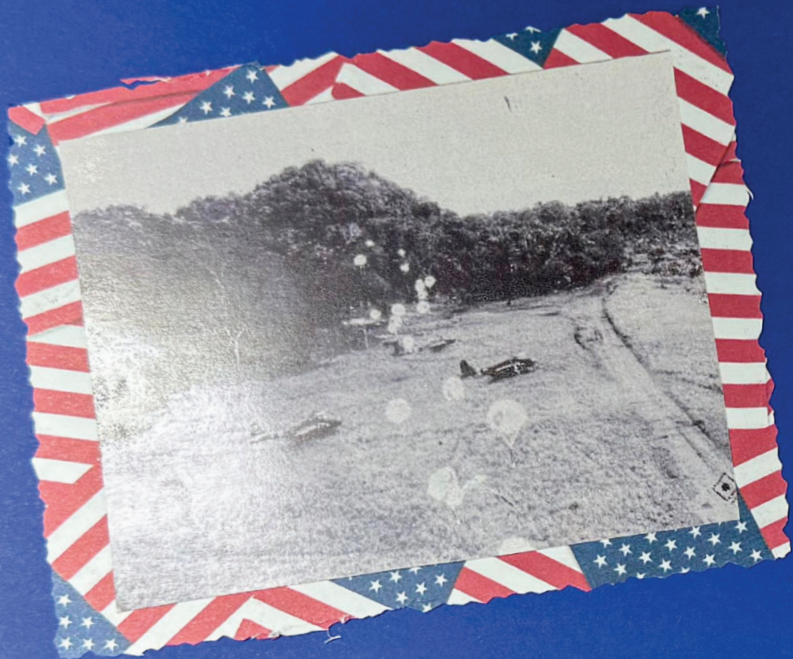


VIA AIR MAIL



Mrs. Emil Huarter  
9 off,  
Bansao





Dropping "Para-frag" bombs.  
These are bombs fitted  
with small parachutes to  
retard them so they can be  
dropped from very low  
levels without resulting in  
damage to the bombers.



-1-  
Dec. 3, 1944

Dear Folks

Well I finally got + some more mail today. I got nine more letters. Really glad to hear from home. I hope Daddy is O.K.

You probably won't get this much before Christmas so I will wish you all a "Very Merry Christmas". We can't get any presents here so when I get paid I will send you the money + you can buy them yourself.

It has really been hot here lately. I got pretty

ARMY



-2-  
sunk today. I will get a good sun tan before long I hope.

I wish I could get anything for a birthday present here. Maybe I will be able to get you a nice souvenir somewhere sometime. I hope.

It really takes quite a while to get your mail. The last letter I got was dated Nov. 7. I spent that day on the boat. We heard all about the election + everything. I send all letters air mail. They get here much sooner.

How is everything back home? Just fine I





hope. Bill is probably out  
of his coat by now.

I and two other boys  
are at the Red Cross writing  
tonite. (Sunday) I didn't get  
to go to Church today as  
we were working. I went  
last week.

Well I can't think  
of anything else to write  
so will close for now.

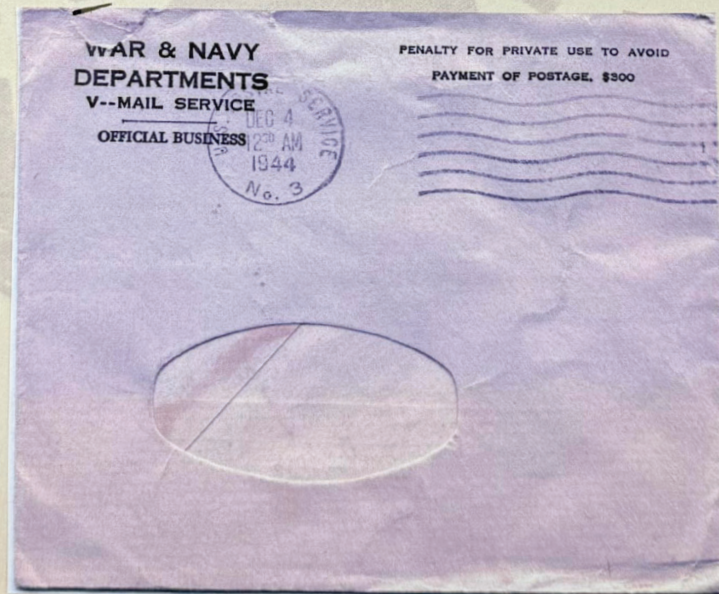
Love  
Jim



every heart beats true  
for the red, white and blue!









*There is a place*

where **FREEDOM** rings,

where spirits *soar*,

where *dreams* are born.

*There is a place*

where **TRUTH** prevails and justice stands,

where **courage** is more than a word

and *Peace* is more than a feeling.

*There is a place*

where *skies of blue* shine brightly,

where **STARS AND STRIPES** wave proudly;

a place that lives to be a beacon of truth

and a **tower of strength**.

*There is a place*

we **STAND UNITED** when we fall to our knees

... one nation under **God**;

a place forever engraved upon our hearts,

more *beautiful* than words could ever tell.

*There is a place* we call

**A★M★E★R★I★C★A.**

©Kimberly Rinehart



New Guinea  
Dec. 6, 1944

Dear Folks.

I received your letter yesterday & also a letter from Bob & Verda. I suppose they are home now. Hope they have a swell time while they are there.

It is raining again tonight as usual. That is about all it gets done around here.

Will have to get up at two in the morning to go on detail. We got up at four this morning & went on a little run before breakfast. We run for an hour and then we had a half hour of exercises. I am really stiff tonight.

I am making some bracelets



out of Australian money. Will try to make one for each of the boys. I think they are kinda cute.

They had some pocket knives at the P. K. today so I bought one. They cost 5 shillings or so.

I guess I might as well tell you that I am a bad boy. I was in the guard house four days.

A bunch of us were working down at the Quartermaster & found some candy bars. I think we all had a few. I and another boy got caught & they put us in the guard house.





Erwin & I were just unlucky  
enough to get caught. We  
really didn't think that  
two Candy bars would  
cause so much trouble.

The Guard house is a  
good place though. They at  
least fed you good. I would  
of got fat there.

How is everyone back  
home? Just fine I hope. I  
am loosing a little of my  
fat again now. I really  
started getting fat after  
my furlow. They hadn't  
been working me very hard.  
I even had a double chin. Ha.

I am glad to hear that.  
The Corn is good this year  
Was Uncle Ray moved yet?

Well I can't think of anything  
else to write so I will close for  
now.

Love  
Jim